

METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR PROCESSING ARTICLES

ABSTRACT

Apparatus is described for processing articles. It has a hollow drum having permeable walls. At one end there is an inlet for receiving articles onto an inside surface 5 of the permeable walls. At the other end is an outlet for discharging articles from the drum. The drum is rotated about an axis having at least a horizontal component at such speed that centrifugal force acting on the articles is sufficient to overcome the gravity acting on the articles. A first jet of fluid is applied to the articles through the permeable wall, to displace the articles from the inside surface and in a direction away from the 10 inlet, towards the outlet.

→ In one application, the process is used to dry the articles. In another application the process is used to inspect the articles.